

CHERRY LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Drug Education and Procedure policy.

Aims and Purposes.

Drugs education will;

- Develop decision making skills.
- Address concerns and correct misunderstandings, which may have been gathered from peers or media.
- To encourage children to make informed and responsible choices now and in later life and to stress the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.
- Inform children with accurate information surrounding drug issues.

The policy will also;

- Provide a consistency of approach throughout the school – in the deliverance of drug education and also with particular importance when dealing with drug related incidents.
- Meet the requirements of DFEE Circular 4/95 (paragraph 33).

Content

The whole school policy for drugs will provide all staff with key principles in the management and delivery of drug issues in school and establish continuity and progression within drug education.

Any planned activities and teaching of drug education will relate to the aims of this policy and also to the Statutory Guidelines of the National Curriculum for Science and the Non Statutory Guidelines for P.S.H.E. (See Appendix 1). On occasion when unplanned discussion arises with a drug oriented theme, teachers will be guided by the aims of the policy in their response. Associate members of staff will be made aware of this policy and will refer to the class teacher or member of the Senior Management team where appropriate.

Staff should not promise confidentiality to pupils, but neither are they obliged to break it. There is no statutory requirement for a school to inform the police about the sale, possession or use of drugs whether or not they are controlled drugs. Governors and senior management will decide if the police should be informed.

The law permits school staff to take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being a controlled drug for the purposes of protecting a pupil from harm and from committing the offence of possession.

The aim in the first instance will be to remove the drug from the premises not the drug user. Teachers will act in 'Loco Parentis' and courts have interpreted this as a delegated responsibility to act as a wise and responsible parent would. Pupils may need a high level of support once parents are informed of suspected drug use. Parents may be alarmed about their child being involved with drugs and will require reassurance that drug use will not inevitably lead to serious long term problems. Parents must also realise that school cannot condone such use even if this is the case at home and repeated possession may lead to disciplinary action from the school. Accurate information should be offered from the school. Contact should be maintained so help can be offered to the individual. (See Appendix 2 for agencies).

Special Educational Needs.

All pupils are entitled to the planned drug education topics that arise in science and P.S.H.E. although the content may be amended, depending on the pupil's level of maturity or previous experiences. Where appropriate activities will be differentiated to ensure that children with different physical, cognitive and/or social abilities can still access the learning objectives.

Equal Opportunities.

The objectives within the planned activities will be taught to all pupils, irrespective of race, culture, religious diversity, gender and disability. Where necessary, activities will be differentiated so as to take account of such a group.

Assessment and Record Keeping.

All activities within drugs education occur through cross-curricular links and are subject to the policy for Assessment and Record Keeping.

Evaluation and Review.

This policy was written by S.Rees. P.S.H.E co-ordinator in consultation with staff, parents and governors. Spring 2008

Appendix 1.

**An Overview of Drug Education in the Planned Curriculum at
Cherry Lane Primary School.**

Key Stage	Topic area	Theme	Broad content
One: Years 1 & 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ourselves • Health and Growing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of medicine. • How the body works. • Ways of caring for your body • Understanding the effects of different substances on the body. • Safety rules in the home and at school. 	<p>Exploring the pupils' knowledge about taking medicines. Taking medicines.</p> <p>Care of medicines and substances.</p>
Two: Years 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teeth and Eating • Moving and Growing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The uses of medicines. • Misuse of medicines. 	<p>Understanding that all medicines are drugs but not all drugs are medicines. Medicine in detail, different types. Alternatives to medication and use of supplements. Healthy lifestyles.</p>
Two: Years 5 & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifestyles • Keeping healthy. • Environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volatile substances. • Specific substance abuse, alcohol, smoking... 	<p>Effects on the body and environment. Peer influences. To know how to make simple choices and exercise some basic techniques for resisting pressure. Exploring pupils knowledge of illegal drugs and (from their ideas) developing their understanding of different effects, risks and consequences.</p>

Appendix 2.

Contacts and Support Agencies.

National Drugs Helpline

Tel. 0800 776600

Adfam

A national charity for families and friends of drug users. They may be in contact with family support groups in your area and also operate a helpline.

Tel. 020 7928 8900

Families Anonymous

Involvement in support groups for parents and families of drug users in different parts of the country.

Tel. 020 7498 4680.

Release

Offers legal advice to users with a special helpline for the parents of those excluded from school for drug use .

Tel: 0171 603 8654

Quit.

Advice and support on giving up cigarette smoking.

Tel. 0800 002200

Drinkline

Specifically dealing with alcohol issues.

Tel. 0845 60104357

www.drugscope.org

Online information about drugs and links to support agencies

